United Nations A/C.2/53/L.17

General Assembly

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26 October 1998

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Fifty-third session
Second Committee
Agenda item 94
Environment and sustainable development

Russian Federation: draft resolution

Review of progress made in implementing conventions related to environment and sustainable development

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Programme of Action for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21[1] adopted at its nineteenth special session, in particular part IV thereof, entitled "International institutional arrangements",

Recalling the Nairobi Declaration on the Role and Mandate of the United Nations Environment Programme, adopted by the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme at its nineteenth session,[2]

Recalling further its decision 52/445 of 18 December 1997, in which it decided to continue to review the progress made in implementing the conventions signed at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development or established as a result of the Conference, as well as other conventions related to sustainable development, bearing in mind section IV.A of the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,

Recognizing that policy decisions under the conventions are undertaken by their respective conferences of the parties, which are autonomous bodies,

Recalling decision 17/25 of 21 May 1993 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme, by which the Governing Council adopted the Programme for the Development and Periodic Review of Environmental Law,[3]

[1] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

[2] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/52/25), annex, decision 19/1.

[3] Ibid., *Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/48/25), annex, decision 17/25.

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Aware of close linkages among various conventions and stressing the need for their further assessment, as appropriate, with a view to achieving synergies and multiple benefits and to promoting coherence of policies and actions, thus supporting progress in their overall implementation,

Recognizing the role of the General Assembly in fostering progress in the implementation of the conventions and of the commitments contained therein,

Recognizing also the role the Assembly should play in the overall development of international environmental law related to sustainable development from a cross-sectoral and integrated perspective,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on ways and means of undertaking the review of the progress made in implementing the conventions related to sustainable development,[4]

1. *Decides* to undertake at future sessions integrated reviews of progress made in implementing the conventions related to environment and sustainable development, on the basis of an assessment of their linkages, with a view to elaborating policy recommendations which could be brought to the attention of their respective conferences of the parties;

2. *Further decides* that the United Nations Environment Programme, in conformity with paragraph 119 of the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,[1] should prepare for consideration by the General Assembly at future sessions periodic thematic reports, with a view to assisting the Assembly in undertaking the intergovernmental reviews envisaged in paragraph 1 above; such reports should be prepared in close collaboration with the secretariats of the conventions and should:

(a) Focus on scientific assessments of ecological linkages between the conventions, making full use of the capacity of the United Nations Environment Programme in environmental assessment and monitoring;

(b) Synthesize the results of relevant studies and other activities taking place, both individually and jointly, under the conventions;

3. *Requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme, in consultation with the executive secretaries of the conventions and the secretariat of the Commission on Sustainable Development, to prepare proposals regarding the possible themes, scope and timing of such reviews and submit those proposals for consideration by the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session.

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[4] A/53/477.

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Fifty-third session
Second Committee
Agenda item 98
Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997–2006)

International Year of Microcredit, 2005

Note by the Secretariat

By its resolution 1998/28 of 29 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council recommended to the General Assembly the adoption of a draft resolution entitled "International Year of Microcredit, 2005". The text of the draft resolution is reproduced below.

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 52/194 of 18 December 1997 entitled "Role of microcredit in the eradication of poverty",

Recognizing that microcredit programmes have successfully contributed to lifting people out of poverty in many countries around the world,

Bearing in mind that microcredit programmes have especially benefited women and have resulted in the achievement of their empowerment,

Recognizing that microcredit programmes, in addition to their role in the eradication of poverty, have also been a factor contributing to the social and human development process,

Bearing in mind the importance of microfinance instruments such as credit, savings and related business services in providing access to capital for people living in poverty,

Noting the support to microcredit in the outcomes of different summit and high-level meetings, including the Twelfth Ministerial Conference of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries (New Delhi, 7 and 8 April 1997),[1] the Ninth Summit of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (Male, 12–14 May 1997),[2] the Assembly of Heads

[1] See A/51/912-S/1997/406, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-second Year, Supplement for July, August and September 1997*, document S/1997/406.

[2] See A/52/222, annex.

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of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its thirty-third ordinary session (Harare, 2–4 June 1997),[3] the Group of Seven statement on economic and financial issues (Denver, United States of America, 21 June 1997), the substantive session of 1997 of the Economic and Social Council (Geneva, 30 June–25 July 1997), the Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting (Edinburgh, 24–27 October 1997) and the Thirteenth Ministerial Conference of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries (Cartagena, 18–20 May 1998),[4]

Noting also that the year 2005 is the final year of the campaign of the Microcredit Summit (Washington, D.C., 2–4 February 1997), which, through its Declaration and Plan of Action,[5] endorsed a global campaign to reach 100 million of the world's poorest families, especially women of those families, with credit for self-employment and other financial and business services, by that year,

Noting further that the international community is observing the period 1997–2006 as the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty,

1. *Proclaims* the year 2005 as the International Year of Microcredit;

2. *Requests* that the observance of the Year be a special occasion for giving impetus to microcredit programmes throughout the world;

3. *Invites* Governments, the United Nations system, all concerned non-governmental organizations, other actors of civil society, the private sector and the media to highlight and give enhanced recognition to the role of microcredit in the eradication of poverty, its contribution to social development and its positive impact on the lives of people living in poverty;

4. *Invites* all involved in the eradication of poverty to consider taking additional steps, including strengthening of existing and emerging microcredit institutions and their capacities, so that credit and related services for self-employment and income-generating activities may be made available to an increasing number of people living in poverty and to further develop, where appropriate, other microfinance instruments;

5. *Invites* the Secretary-General to present to it at its fifty-eighth session a report containing a draft programme of action for the effective observance of the Year, in consultation with all relevant actors including United Nations bodies, under an item entitled "First United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty" to be included in the provisional agenda of that session.

45th plenary meeting
29 July 1998

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[3] See A/52/465, annex II.

[4] A/52/970-S/1998/574.

[5] A/52/113, annex I.

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Fifty-third session
Second Committee
Agenda item 93 (c)
Sustainable development and international economic cooperation: implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)

Indonesia*: draft resolution

Special session of the General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the Habitat Agenda

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 51/177 of 16 December 1996 on the implementation of the outcome of the Second United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and 52/192 of 18 December 1997 on follow-up to the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and the future role of the Commission on Human Settlements,

Also recalling that, in paragraph 13 of its resolution 51/177, the General Assembly reaffirmed that the Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations , together with the Commission on Human Settlements, should constitute a three-tiered intergovernmental mechanism to oversee the coordination of activities for the implementation of the Habitat Agenda,[1]

Recalling paragraph 218 of the Habitat Agenda, adopted by the Second United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), held at Istanbul from 3 to 14 June 1996, in which the Conference recommended that the General Assembly consider holding a special session in the year 2001 for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the outcome of the Conference,

Further recalling its resolution 52/190 of 18 December 1997, in which it, *inter alia*, decided to hold a special session of the General Assembly in the year 2001 for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), Istanbul, 3–14 June 1996* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.IV.6), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

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on Human Settlements (Habitat II), the modalities of which were to be decided on at its fifty-third session,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on proposals on the scope and organizational aspects of the special session of the General Assembly on the overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the Habitat Agenda,[2]

1. *Takes note*, with appreciation, of the report of the Secretary-General concerning the modalities for the special session of the General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the Habitat Agenda;[3]

2. *Decides* that the special session will be held in June 2001 for a period of five working days;

3. *Decides* to designate the Commission on Human Settlements to serve as the preparatory committee for the special session;

4. *Also decides* that the Commission, meeting as the preparatory committee for the special session, shall be open-ended to allow full participation of all Member States;

5. *Invites* representatives of local authorities, other Habitat Agenda partners and relevant actors of civil society, particularly the private sector and non-governmental organizations, in the field of adequate shelter for all and sustainable human settlements development, to contribute to the preparatory process, in accordance with the rules of procedure of the Commission and the relevant provisions of Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31 of 25 July 1996;

6. *Also invites* the Commission, serving as the preparatory committee, to meet for two working days back-to-back with its forthcoming seventeenth session in order to, *inter alia*, elect its officers, adopt appropriate rules of procedure and consider the organization of work for its first substantive session, to be held in April–May 2000 at Nairobi for five working days, and invites the preparatory committee at its first substantive session to consider the modalities for the second substantive session, to be held in 2001;

7. *Requests* the Commission, at its seventeenth session, to make practical arrangements for devoting its regular session to the preparatory process and to make recommendation to the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session;

8. *Invites* the Commission, at its seventeenth session, to include in its agenda an item entitled "Preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the implementation of the Habitat Agenda";

9. *Also invites* the Economic and Social Council to devote its high-level segment in 2000 to human settlements issues and the implementation of the Habitat Agenda;

10. *Further invites* the Economic and Social Council to actively promote and coordinate the role of the regional commissions in the review and appraisal of the implementation of the Habitat Agenda at the regional and subregional levels;

11. *Invites* the regional commissions, within their mandates and in cooperation with regional intergovernmental organizations, as well as banks, to consider convening high-level meetings to review the progress made in implementing the outcome of the Conference, and to report the results of their review to the Economic and Social Council;

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[2] A/53/267

[3] See A/53/267

12. *Requests* other relevant organizations and agencies of the United Nations system, consistent with their respective mandates, to strongly contribute to the review and appraisal of the implementation of the Habitat Agenda at the national, regional and global levels;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

14. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fourth session a sub-item entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)".

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General Assembly

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Fifty-third session
Second Committee
Agenda item 91
Macroeconomic policy questions

Indonesia*: draft resolution

Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the principles and purposes of the Charter of the United Nations, particularly as regard the role of the United Nations in promoting international economic and social cooperation, including solutions of international economic, social and related problems,

Recognizing the challenges and opportunities of globalization and interdependence,

Recognizing also the serious risks of marginalization and the increased vulnerability of developing countries resulting from a severe erosion in trade preferences arising from trade liberalization,

Expressing concern over the marginalization and exclusion of a large number of developing countries from the globalization process, and the increasing vulnerability of those developing countries which are integrating into the world economy, resulting particularly from a severe erosion in trade preferences, through the process of globalization and accentuation of income disparities within and among countries,

Underlining the urgent need for managing the negative impact of globalization and interdependence so as to realize the objectives of poverty eradication and sustained economic growth and sustainable development,

Reiterating that the United Nations occupies a unique position in respect of addressing the challenges of promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence,

Emphasizing that the United Nations has a key role in fostering greater coherence, complementarity and coordination in economic policy-making at the global level,

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

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Recalling the outcome of the ninth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, held at Midrand, South Africa, which provides an important framework for promoting partnership for growth and development in the context of globalization and interdependence,

Noting with satisfaction the renewal of the dialogue on strengthening international cooperation for development through partnership, through the convening of the high-level dialogue on the theme of the social and economic impact of globalization and interdependence and their policy implications, held on 17 and 18 September 1998, which could pave the way for further consideration of the issues of minimizing the negative impacts and maximizing the benefits of globalization, particularly for the developing countries,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General[1] on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace, and sustainable development in Africa, wherein he identified, *inter alia*, the obstacles to the full participation of the African economies in the globalization process,

Underlining the need for a comprehensive review of the international financial architecture,

1. *Reaffirms* that the United Nations has a central role to play in promoting international cooperation for development and in providing policy guidance on global development issues, particularly in the context of globalization and interdependence;

2. *Re-emphasizes* the importance of recognizing the special needs of developing countries, particularly the least developed countries and the small island developing States, in the context of trade liberalization and globalization and urges the international community, including the World Trade Organization, to grant a more concessional treatment to developing countries on the grounds of their vulnerability;

3. *Welcomes* the efforts of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the International Trade Centre to help developing countries, in particular the least developed countries and the small island developing States, address their specific problems of marginalization within the globalizing economy, in particular through technology-related assistance in the fields of trade, policy, improvement of trade efficiency, and policies and trade in services, in particular in electronic commerce;

4. *Underlines* the need to ensure the full participation of all the developing countries in the benefits of globalization and also the need to reduce their vulnerability to the impacts of globalization and interdependence;

5. *Emphasizes* that concerted efforts should be made, through enhanced cooperation and coordination among all the relevant institutions, to minimize the negative impacts and maximize the benefits of globalization and interdependence for the developing countries;

6. *Strongly underlines* the importance of market access, increase in official development assistance, conversion of official debts into grants, liberalization of the heavily indebted poor countries initiatives and foreign direct investment flows as the five priority areas that need to be addressed in order to encourage the participation of Africa in the global economy, as recommended in the report of the Secretary-General;[1]

7. *Underlines* the need to reform the international financial architecture in order to enhance its abilities to deal with the phenomena of globalization and interdependence;

[1] A/52/871-S/1998/318.

8. *Recognizes* the need, in the various relevant forums, for continued consideration, and close coordination, of the issues arising out of globalization and interdependence;

9. *Recalls* the widely shared desire expressed at the high-level dialogue held on 17 and 18 September 1998, which constituted a renewal of the dialogue on strengthening international cooperation for development through partnership, to continue discussions with a view to developing a coherent and effective response to the opportunities and challenges being offered by globalization and interdependence;

10. *Recognizes* the urgency of evolving a global response to mitigate the negative impacts of globalization and interdependence, taking into account the special vulnerability, concerns and needs of developing countries;

11. *Decides* to hold a two-day high-level resumed fifty-third session of the General Assembly in the first half of 1999, to discuss ways and means to optimize the benefits and minimize the negative consequences of globalization and interdependence, in particular for developing countries;

12. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly to hold consultations with Member States regarding the specific date, format and outcome of the high-level resumed session;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare an analytical report, in collaboration with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and in consultation with relevant organizations, in particular the World Trade Organization, the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and the regional commissions, to be submitted to the General Assembly at its high-level resumed session, that should examine the complex, interrelated issues in order to facilitate better understanding of globalization and make recommendations on:

(a) The role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence;

(b) Promoting coherence, complementarity and coordination in economic policy-making at the global level;

(c) Ensuring coherent policies at various levels for optimizing the benefits and limiting the negative consequences of globalization and interdependence;

14. *Decides* to include in the agenda of its fifty-fourth session an item entitled "Globalization and interdependence".

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Fifty-third session
Second Committee
Agenda item 94
Environment and sustainable development

Republic of Indonesia*: draft resolution

Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, by which it decided to establish the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme,

Also recalling the results and decisions of the nineteenth special session of the General Assembly, convened for the purpose of the overall review and appraisal of the implementation of Agenda 21, and, in particular, paragraphs 119 and 122 to 124 of the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,[1]

Further recalling the Nairobi Declaration on the Role and Mandate of the United Nations Environment Programme, adopted by the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme at its nineteenth session,[2]

Having considered the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its fifth special session,[3]

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its fifth special session and the decisions contained therein;[3]

2. *Recognizes*, in particular, Governing Council decision SS.V/2 on the revitalization, reform and strengthening of the United Nations Environment Programme, including the areas that need special action from time to time, as identified by the Executive

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] Resolution S/19-2, annex.

[2] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/52/25), annex, decision 19/1, annex.

[3] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-third Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/53/25).

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Director of the United Nations Environment Programme in line with the Nairobi Declaration on the Role and Mandate of the United Nations Environment Programme;

3. *Welcomes* the adoption by the Conference of Plenipotentiaries, at Rotterdam on 11 September 1998, of the Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade and, in particular, the participation of the secretariat of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in collaboration with the United Nations Environment Programme as an interim secretariat to the Convention;

4. *Reaffirms* Nairobi as the location for the United Nations Environment Programme and the strengthening of the Programme as the focal point for consideration of global environmental issues;

5. *Encourages* the United Nations Environment Programme to further strengthen its revitalized role as an important implementing agency of the Global Environment Facility, taking into account the decisions of the March 1998 meeting of the Assembly of the Global Environment Facility, and welcomes in particular the collaboration with the Global Environment Facility on freshwater resources, such as the Global International Waters Assessment, and on activities aiming at combating land degradation as they relate to the focal areas of the Global Environment Facility;

6. *Welcomes* the efforts made by the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme in streamlining the organization in Nairobi, stresses the importance of adequate, stable and predictable financial resources as an essential prerequisite to enable the Programme to discharge its strengthened mandate, and calls upon Governments to make contributions in order to allow for the full and effective implementation of the programmes of the Environment Programme;

7. *Encourages* the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to intensify his efforts to mobilize additional resources from other donor sources as appropriate.

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General Assembly

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Fifty-third session
Second Committee
Agenda item 97
Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources

Afghanistan, Algeria, Bangladesh, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Jordan, Malaysia, Mauritania, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, United Arab Emirates, Yemen and Palestine: draft resolution

Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 52/207 of 18 December 1997 and Economic and Social Council resolution 1998/32 of 29 July 1998,

Reaffirming the principle of the permanent sovereignty of peoples under foreign occupation over their natural resources,

Guided by the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, affirming the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force, and recalling relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967, 465 (1980) of 1 March 1980 and 497 (1981) of 17 December 1981,

Reaffirming the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War of 12 August 1949[1] to the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967,

Expressing its concern at the exploitation by Israel, the occupying Power, of the natural resources of the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967,

[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

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Aware of the additional, detrimental economic and social impact of the Israeli settlements on Palestinian and other Arab natural resources, especially the confiscation of land and the forced diversion of water resources,

Expressing its concern at the difficulties facing the Middle East peace process which started at Madrid on 30 October 1991 and which is based on Security Council resolutions 242 (1967), 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973 and 425 (1978) of 19 March 1978 and the principle of land for peace,

1. *Takes note* of the report transmitted by the Secretary-General;[2]

2. *Reaffirms* the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people and the population of the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources, including land and water;

3. *Calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, not to exploit, to cause loss or depletion of or to endanger the natural resources in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan;

4. *Recognizes* the right of the Palestinian people to claim restitution as a result of any exploitation, loss or depletion of, or danger to, their natural resources, and expresses the hope that this issue will be dealt with in the framework of the final status negotiation between the Palestinian and Israeli sides;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to it at its fifty-fourth session on the implementation of the present resolution, and decides to include in the agenda of the fifty-fourth session the item entitled "Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources".

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[2] A/53/163–E/1998/79, annex.

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Second Committee
Agenda item 93 (e)
Sustainable development and international economic cooperation: implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s

Indonesia*: draft resolution

Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 52/187 of 18 December 1997, in which it decided to convene the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries at a high level in the year 2001,

1. *Welcomes and accepts* the generous offer of the European Union to host the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries in the first semester of the year 2001;

2. *Designates* the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development as the Secretary-General of the Conference, and requests him to make all necessary preparations for the Conference;

3. *Decides* to convene the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries in the first semester of the year 2001 for a duration of seven days, at a venue and time to be determined by the Secretary-General of the Conference in consultation with the European Union;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the Conference to organize the intergovernmental preparatory committee (in two parts) and the three expert-level preparatory meetings referred to in paragraph 1 (b) of General Assembly resolution 52/187;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the Conference, in consultation with Member States and in cooperation with relevant organizations and agencies, to organize well-focused

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

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sectoral and thematic or, where appropriate, country-specific round-table meetings during the Conference to contribute to the work of the Conference;

6. *Calls upon* the United Nations Development Programme and the World Bank to link the forthcoming round table and consultative group meetings to the preparatory process of the Conference, and to ensure that they make substantive contributions to the Conference;

7. *Requests* the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, in his capacity as Convenor of the United Nations Development Group, to ensure the full involvement in the preparations for the Conference of United Nations resident coordinators and country teams in the least developed countries;

8. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in consultation with the Secretary-General of the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, to convene an inter-agency meeting to ensure the full mobilization and coordination of all relevant organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, as well as other relevant institutions, for the purpose of preparations for and follow-up to the Conference;

9. *Invites* the Secretary-General of the Conference to make arrangements, on the basis of consultations with Member States, to facilitate the involvement of civil society, including non-governmental organizations and the private sector, in the preparatory process and the Conference;

10. *Decides* to defray the cost of participation of two government representatives from each least developed country in the work of the intergovernmental preparatory committee meetings and the Conference itself through the use of extrabudgetary resources, and should those resources prove to be insufficient to consider all other options;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations, with the assistance of concerned organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, including the Department of Public Information of the United Nations Secretariat, to take necessary measures to intensify their public information efforts and other relevant initiatives to enhance public awareness in favour of the Conference, its objectives and its significance;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session on the state of preparations for the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries.